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His Last Will and Testament.—Over in the mosquito country an old farmer died. He was reputed to be rich. After his death, however, it was found that he died penniless. His will was very brief. It ran as follows:

"In the name of God, Amen. There's only one thing I leave. I leave the earth. My relatives have always wanted that. They can have it."—Lippincott's.

Inside Information.—A story is told of the late John L. Toole, the comedian, and Mr. Justice Hawkins, now Lord Brampton. They were at supper together discussing the events of the day. The judge incidentally mentioned that he intended, on the morrow, giving the man he had been trying, fifteen years, because he deserved it. As Toole was leaving he blandly inquired: "Oh, would you mind my calling at the newspaper offices and telling them about that fifteen years? It will be a tip for them—exclusive information, you know—and will do me no end of good with the press." "Good God! No, sir," exclaimed the judge, who took the precaution of accompanying Toole to his hotel and seeing him safely to bed.—Cent. Law Journal.

BOOK REVIEWS.

The Law of Torts. By Melville Madison Bigelow, Ph. D. Harvard, 8th Edition. Little, Brown & Co., Boston. Price, \$3.00.

When a law book reaches eight editions it seems almost like a work of supererogation to review it, but this book of Mr. Bigelow's in its last guise is such an excellent statement of the Law of Torts brought up to date, that we feel it necessary to give it more than passing notice. With the first edition it won its place amongst the new books which to the student of law are almost essential. Written in the concise, yet clear and able manner, it soon rendered itself valuable not only to the student but to the general practitioner who wished to review the law on the subject in the quickest and clearest way. The eighth edition brings up the law to date. It treats the subject from several new points of view, rewriting chapters where necessary and carefully annotating where annotations were necessary. We can commend the book as not only pleasantly written from a literary standpoint, but of distinct value to those who wish to acquaint themselves with the Law of Torts from a social and logical standpoint.

Cyclopedia of Law and Procedure. William Mack, editor-in-chief. Vols. XXIV and XXV. The American Law Book Company. 1907.

With each succeeding volume this series becomes more and more valuable. The only complaint we have ever heard against this series is one which can not be avoided, namely, that there are so many subjects yet untreated. It should be said, however, that the publishers are issuing the work with reasonable promptness and it

will not be long before the profession will have the advantage of having the entire field both of substantive law and procedure treated in one publication. This has never been done before in any work and its advantages are so apparent that the universal use of "Cyc" is assured. The courts are citing it with increasing frequency. The most notable article in Volume 24 is that on Labor Unions by Judge A. B. Parker, the last Democratic nominee for President of the United States, but this volume will be chiefly used on account of its thorough treatment of the subject of Landlord and Tenant, to which about 440 pages are devoted. If the matter on this subject were printed in ordinary text-book style it would probably make a volume of one thousand pages. The most important subjects treated in Volume 25 are Libel and Slander and Life Insurance. This volume brings the law down through the title "Malicious Mischief."

The Encyclopedia of Evidence. Edited by Edgar W. Camp and John F. Crowe. Vol. IX. L. D. Powell Company, Los Angeles, Cal. 1906.

It seems strange to the twentieth century practitioner that the profession should have so long done without books dealing with the law according to the encyclopedic method. Encyclopedias of law are now in universal use and have very largely superseded the old fashioned text-books. No branch of the law so readily lends itself to the new method of treatment as the law of evidence, and we predict that the encyclopedia of evidence will have a large and ever-increasing usefulness to the practitioner. The work has a distinct advantage over any text-book on the subject, for the reason that its arrangement makes its contents easily accessible. This consideration in itself is enough to make the work of permanent value, but added to this it can be truthfully said of the Encyclopedia of Evidence that its editors have displayed judgment and ability in editing the work. We only hope that they will hasten the day when the last volume will be issued so that the profession can have full benefit of the series. Volume 9 brings the subject down through the title "Presumptions."

A Treatise on the Law of Municipal Corporations. By Howard S. Abbott, of the Minneapolis Bar, Late Special Master in Chancery Union Pacific Railroad Receivership; Master in Chancery U. S. Circuit Court; Lecturer on Public and Private Corporations and Civil Law, University of Minnesota. In three volumes. Vol. III. Keefe-Davidson Company, St. Paul, 1906.

We have heretofore had the pleasure of reviewing volumes I and II of this most useful publication. The rapid growth of the cities of this country and the ever-widening scope of the governmental functions exercised by municipalities, makes the appearance of this work most timely. Fifty years ago the law of municipal corporations was comparatively unimportant, but now that the cities are operating water works, gas plants, street railways, and other public utilities involving the expenditure of millions upon millions, this branch of the law is of large and increasing importance. No library, therefore, is complete without a modern work on municipal corporations and so far as we know Mr. Abbott's treatise is the only work that meets the demand. Volume III deals with Public Property, The Liability of Public Corporations for Negligence, Public Duties, and Action by and against Public Corporations, thus completing the work of an author whose training and ability is in itself a guarantee of the accuracy and usefulness of his treatise.